New York Spectator Mar. 14, 1812

## EXTRACT OF A LETTER TO THE EDITOR OF THE COLUMBIA GAZETTE

I felt on Thursday night, about two hours before day, an Earthquake which shook the houses much more than any I felt during the last session of the Legislature; it was preceded by a noise like distant thunder. The fowls were driven from their roosts by the vibration of the trees on which they sat, the hogs squealed, and the dogs barked - it was sufficient to appal the stoutest heart; if it has been as severe with you as with us, I fear the College has sustained much injury.

## Comment

The article does not specify the state the letter was from; Mississippi, however, is the only state known to have a town by this name. And since the Penckneyville, MS is in an area that was somewhat settled by 1812, it is believed that this is the Penckneyville referred to.